



Australian
Bureau of
Statistics



2008 Western Australia at a glance

Re-Issue

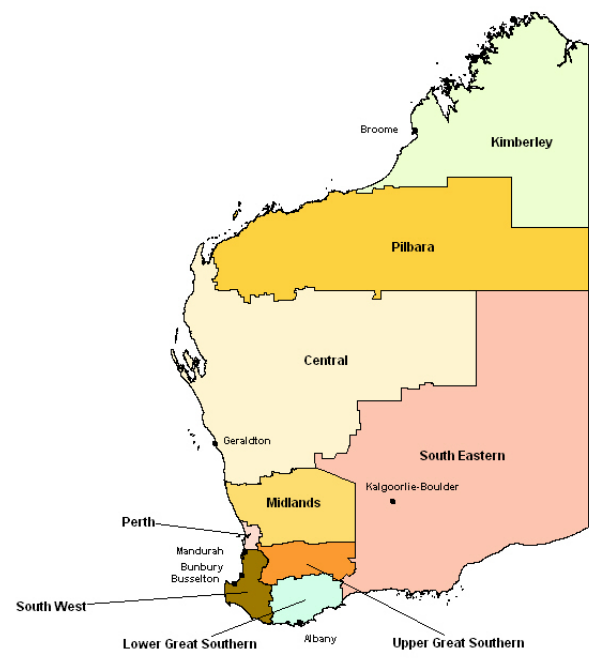
Western Australia had an estimated population of 2,105,783 in June 2007, accounting for 10% of Australia’s population.

Western Australia has the largest land area (2,532,400sq km) of any Australian State or Territory. Its coastline of 12,500km amounts to 34% of Australia’s total coastline.

The State’s capital, Perth, was founded on 12 August 1829 and contains over 70% of Western Australia’s population.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA IN RELATION TO AUSTRALIA

	% of Australian total
Area	32.9
Coastline	34.0
Demography	
Estimated resident population (June 2007)	10.0
Labour force	
Employed persons (December 2007)	10.6
Unemployed persons (December 2007)	7.6
International Trade (Value)	
Imports (2006–07)	12.2
Exports (2006–07)	36.0



people

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION (JUNE)¹

	2006 '000	2007 '000
Males	1 039.7	1 064.6
Females	1 019.4	1 041.2
Persons	2 059.0	2 105.8
under 15 years	410.0	416.7
15–19 years	146.9	149.4
20–29 years	287.2	296.5
30–39 years	301.4	305.8
40–49 years	309.1	313.0
50–59 years	268.5	272.1
60–64 years	94.5	102.5
65 years and over	241.4	249.7
WA Statistical Divisions		
Perth	1 519.5	na
South West	217.8	na
Lower Great Southern	55.4	na
Upper Great Southern	18.8	na
Midlands	53.2	na
South Eastern	55.6	na
Central	61.3	na
Pilbara	44.3	na
Kimberley	33.0	na

¹ All estimated resident population figures have been revised and rebased to 2006 Census of Population and Housing.

DEMOGRAPHY

	2005 no.	2006 no.
Live births	26 253	27 776
Deaths	11 297	11 643
Marriages	8 981	11 602
Divorces	5 265	5 544
Crude rate (per 1,000 persons) ¹		
Births	13.1	13.5
Deaths	5.6	5.7
Marriages	4.5	5.6
Divorces	2.6	2.7

¹ Based on mean estimated resident population at 30 June.

PERSON CHARACTERISTICS (Proportion of WA total)¹

	2001 %	2006 %
Birthplace		
Australia	67.7	65.3
United Kingdom	11.1	10.6
New Zealand	2.5	2.4
South Africa	0.8	1.1
Italy	1.3	1.1
Malaysia	1.0	1.0
India	0.7	0.8
Singapore	0.6	0.6
Viet Nam	0.6	0.5
Netherlands	0.6	0.5
Religious affiliation		
Anglicanism	22.6	20.4
Buddhism	1.6	1.8
Catholicism	24.8	23.7
Hinduism	0.3	0.4
Islam	1.1	1.2
Judaism	0.3	0.3
Other religious affiliation	29.6	29.3
No religious affiliation	19.7	22.9

¹ Census of Population and Housing, Based on place of usual residents

EDUCATION

	2006 no.	2007 no.
Full time students		
Government	230 293	229 611
Non-government	112 349	114 977
Schools		
Government	771	769
Non-government	296	299
	2005 no.	2006 no.
International students (short term¹ education arrivals)		
Singapore	4 238	4 463
Malaysia	3 356	2 879
Japan	1 934	2 024
Indonesia	2 600	2 010
China	1 408	1 520
All international students	26 539	25 990

¹ Less than one year.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS (August)¹

	2006	2007
	\$	\$
Males	1 208.90	1 298.90
Females	899.50	949.20
Persons	1 108.80	1 185.80

¹ Full time adult ordinary time earnings, Trend.

LABOUR MARKET (December)¹

	2006	2007
	'000	'000
Employed persons	1 082.7	1 121.3
Unemployed persons	36.1	38.1
Total labour force	1 118.8	1 159.4
	%	%

Unemployment rate	3.2	3.3
-------------------	-----	-----

¹ Trend

INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT (November)

	2006	2007
	'000	'000
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	42.0	43.0
Mining	52.3	51.9
Manufacturing	98.2	98.2
Electricity, gas and water supply	11.6	10.9
Construction	115.2	126.1
Wholesale trade	46.0	44.7
Retail trade	154.7	147.1
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	45.4	42.5
Transport and storage	40.1	52.8
Communication services	14.4	16.7
Finance and insurance	28.7	28.4
Property and business services	128.3	135.4
Government administration and defence	54.8	47.7
Education	73.7	82.0
Health and community services	99.7	115.6
Cultural and recreational services	30.5	28.2
Personal and other services	45.8	43.8

economy

STATE ACCOUNTS

	2005-06	2006-07
	\$m	\$m
Gross State Product (real)	120 255	127 775
Gross State Product per capita (real)	59 087	61 490

HOUSE PRICE INDEX¹

	2005-06	2006-07
	%	%
Established homes	27.4	32.2
Project homes	16.4	10.6

¹ Percentage change from previous financial year.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX¹

	2005-06	2006-07
	%	%
Food	4.7	5.4
Alcohol and tobacco	3.3	3.6
Clothing and footwear	-2.6	-0.9
Housing	9.0	7.4
Household contents and services	1.7	2.3
Health	4.1	5.3
Transportation	5.9	2.4
Communication	-1.5	1.3
Recreation	2.1	1.9
Education	6.1	6.9
Financial and insurance services	0.4	2.0
All groups	4.2	4.0

¹ Percentage change from previous financial year.

industry

BUILDING

	2005-06	2006-07
	no.	no.
New residential building		
Approved	25 655	24 872
Completed	21 631	24 621
Average value of new residential building	\$	\$
Approved	196 543	239 370
Completed	176 954	203 115
Total value of non-residential building	\$m	\$m
Approved	2 322.9	2 758.6
Completed	1 593.8	2 159.8

industry (continued)

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

	2005-06	2006-07
	\$m	\$m
Imports	19 095	22 125
Exports	47 939	60 509
Imports from:		
Japan	2 087	2 601
Singapore	2 788	2 441
United States of America	2 112	2 214
United Kingdom	694	1 853
China	1 177	1 491
Exports to:		
China	9 837	13 781
Japan	10 964	12 015
India	3 108	5 672
Korea, Republic of	4 138	5 013
United Kingdom	3 373	2 822
Major commodities exported:		
Iron ore	12 719	15 351
Gold bullion	7 159	10 431
Petroleum and petroleum products	5 877	7 484
Natural and manufactured gas	4 762	4 709
Wheat	1 614	1 696
Wool	492	517

MINING

		2005-06	2006-07
Production			
Iron ore	'000 t	258 394	281 117
Gold	t	165	162
Diamonds	'000 carats	25 339	24 622
Crude oil	ML	16 635	19 940
Natural gas	million m3	25 887	27 199
Exploration expenditure			
Minerals	\$m	590.2	839.1
Petroleum	\$m	593.6	1 481.0

AGRICULTURE

	2005-06
Agricultural commodities	'000 t
Barley for grain	2 400
Wheat for grain	9 094
Livestock numbers	'000
Meat cattle	2 320
Sheep and lambs	22 129

TOURISM

	2005-06	2006-07
Short term overseas holiday travel	no.	no.
Resident departures	299 305	342 132
Visitor arrivals	242 047	245 904
Holiday arrivals - country of origin	%	%
United Kingdom and Ireland	26.0	27.8
Rest of Europe	13.7	13.6
Singapore	16.6	16.5
Japan	11.8	10.1
Malaysia	8.8	8.3
Other countries	23.1	23.7
Total	100.0	100.0
Holiday departures - main destination	%	%
Indonesia	21.5	18.8
Thailand	11.2	14.6
Singapore	10.3	9.2
United Kingdom and Ireland	9.0	9.0
New Zealand	8.3	8.6
Other countries	39.7	39.9
Total	100.0	100.0

environment

CLIMATE

	Mean daily temperature				Mean annual rainfall (mm)
	Summer (January)		Winter (July)		
	Max (°C)	Min (°C)	Max (°C)	Min (°C)	
Perth (Metro)	30.5	17.7	18.4	7.9	748.9
Albany	22.8	15.4	15.7	8.1	929.7
Broome	33.4	26.1	27.9	14.1	574.9
Bunbury	29.1	15.0	17.3	7.3	731.6
Esperance	26.1	15.5	17.1	8.3	620.5
Geraldton (Port)	29.1	18.4	19.8	10.5	449.5
Kalgoorlie/Boulder	33.8	17.9	16.7	5.9	242.0
Mandurah	29.3	16.9	17.3	8.6	882.2
Port Hedland	36.4	25.5	27.1	12.3	313.0

Source: Bureau of Meteorology 2006, Bureau of Meteorology, Perth,
<<http://www.bom.gov.au>>.

HOUSEHOLD ENERGY AND WATER USE (Proportion of total households: 800,800)

2006
%

Main energy source for water heating

Mains gas	55.6
Mains electricity	20.8
Solar	15.4
LPG bottled gas	6.6

Cooling

Evaporative	24.7
Reverse cycle	34.8
Refrigerated	11.1

Heating

Gas heater	40.5
Reverse cycle air conditioner	18.7
Wood	15.2
Electric	12.3

Water saving

Had rainwater tank	8.5
Had access to household bore	21.2

Data in this publication are subject to revision.

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics	no.	number
°C	degrees Celsius	na	not available
ha	hectare	sq km	square kilometres
km	kilometres	t	tonnes
LPG	liquified petroleum gas	\$	dollars
m ³	cubic metres	%	per cent
ML	megalitre	'000	thousand
mm	millimetres	WA	Western Australia
\$m	million dollars		

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ABS publications draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated; without it the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available for general use by the community. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

For more information...

cat. no. 1306.5

INTERNET

www.abs.gov.au

The ABS web site is the best place for data from our publications and information about the ABS. All statistics on the ABS web site can be downloaded free of charge.

LIBRARY

A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICE

Our consultants can help you access the full range of information published by the ABS that is available free of charge from our web site, or purchase a hard copy publication.

Information tailored to your needs can also be requested as a 'user pays' service.

Specialists are on hand to help you with analytical or methodological advice.

PHONE

1300 135 070

EMAIL

client.services@abs.gov.au

FAX

1300 135 211

WEB ADDRESS

www.abs.gov.au

POST

Client Services, ABS
GPO Box 796
Sydney NSW 2001



2130650013087

ISSN 1329-1351

© Commonwealth of Australia 2008

Produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics

Cover photograph: Cottesloe Beach,
Perth's Sunset Coast courtesy of
Tourism Western Australia